



Commonwealth of Kentucky  
**Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet**

Office of Mine Safety and Licensing  
P.O. Box 2244  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602  
Telephone: (502) 573 - 0140

## **EMERGENCY AWARENESS BULLETIN**

**To:** All District Supervisors, Inspectors, Analysts and Instructors

**From:** Ronald H. Hughes – Director, Division of Investigation

**Date:** April 24, 2006

**EAB-06005 Kentucky Fatal Accident #4 (Nationally # 25) Roof Fall**

At approximately 2:30 PM on April 20, 2006, a shuttle car operator was fatally injured in an underground coal mine in the Pikeville District. The victim was 28 years of age with a total of 2 years mining experience, 2 months 7 days at this mine and 1 year 6 months at this occupation.

This mine is a single unit mine and employs a total of 25 employees with 22 underground and three on the surface. The mine has two production shifts and one maintenance shift per day. The working section or unit was on retreat mining and the section tailpiece recently had been moved back one crosscut. The continuous miner had been moved over from the left side of the working section to the No. 9 entry. Several workmen including the mine foreman were in the process of hanging the miner cable when the foreman requested that the shuttle car operator (victim) to go back and get his car and bring it to the miner. According to an eyewitness, the victim had just turn the right corner of the No. 5 entry coming from the crosscut between the No. 6 and No. 5 entries approximately 50 feet outby survey station 338 when he was struck by a roof fall measuring up to 86 inches in width, 20 feet in length, and 6 ½ inches in thickness. The amount of fallen roof on the victim measured 36 inches wide and 82 inches in length and 6 ½ inches in thickness. The immediate roof in this area was 10 feet of laminated shale.

The victim was removed from the fall area immediately by his coworkers. CPR was performed by two medical emergency technicians while transporting the victim to the surface. He was then immediately taken by ambulance to the ARH South Williamson Hospital and pronounced dead by the attending emergency room physician Dr. Schewich at 3:37 PM.

\* Note: This is the third roof fall fatality in Kentucky this year.

The accident is currently under investigation by the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing and the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

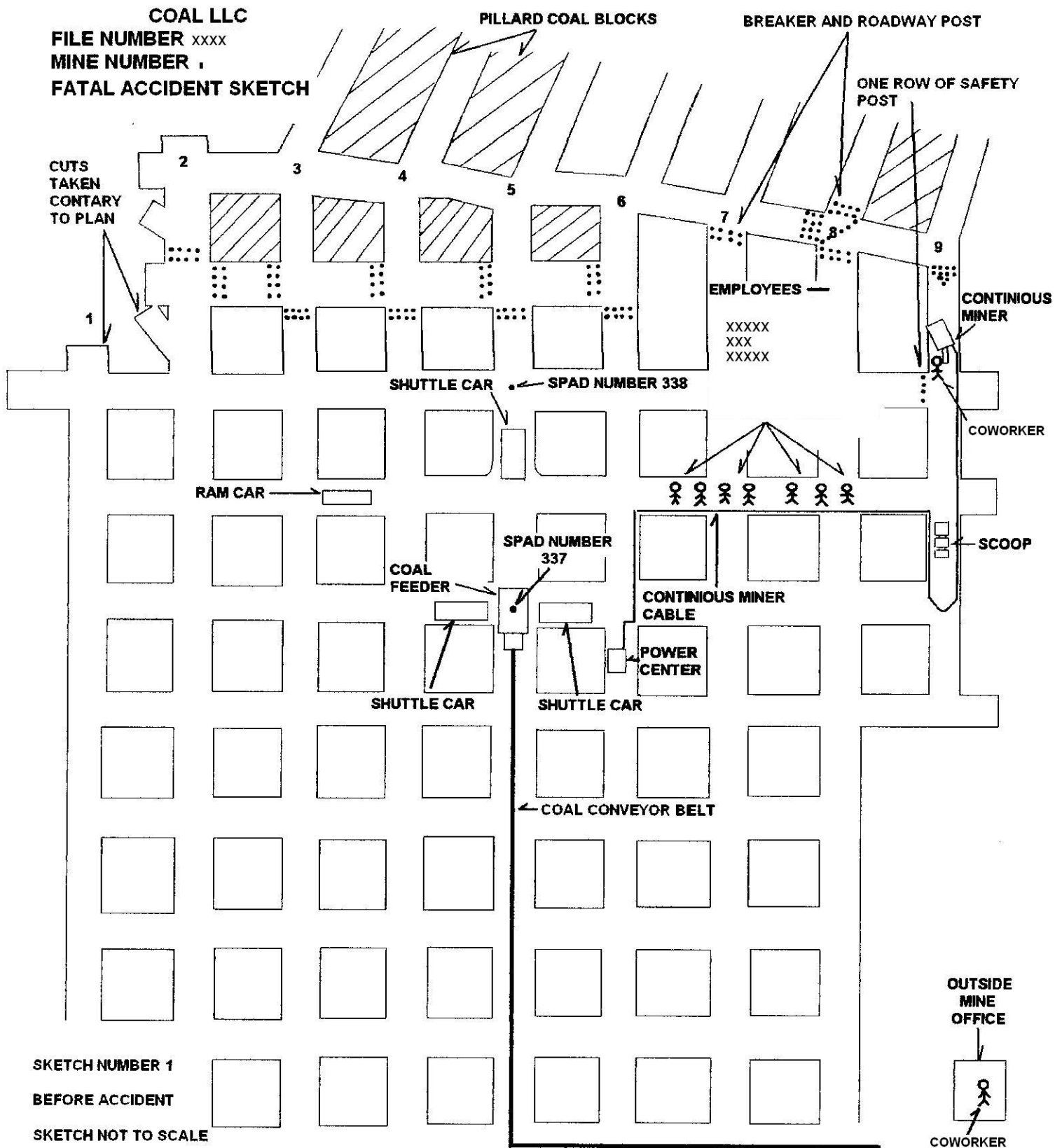
PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

1. Conduct adequate examinations of all areas where workers are exposed as required by KRS 352.161, 352.201-5, 352.280 and 352.340.
2. Approved roof control plans should always be followed, always support the roof adequately and add additional supports where needed.
3. Retreat mining increases the need for more frequent examinations of the roof, face and ribs on the working section. All miners should remain alert for changing conditions and report any hazardous condition immediately to their supervisor.

**Remember, all accidents are preventable. We simply fail to prevent them.**



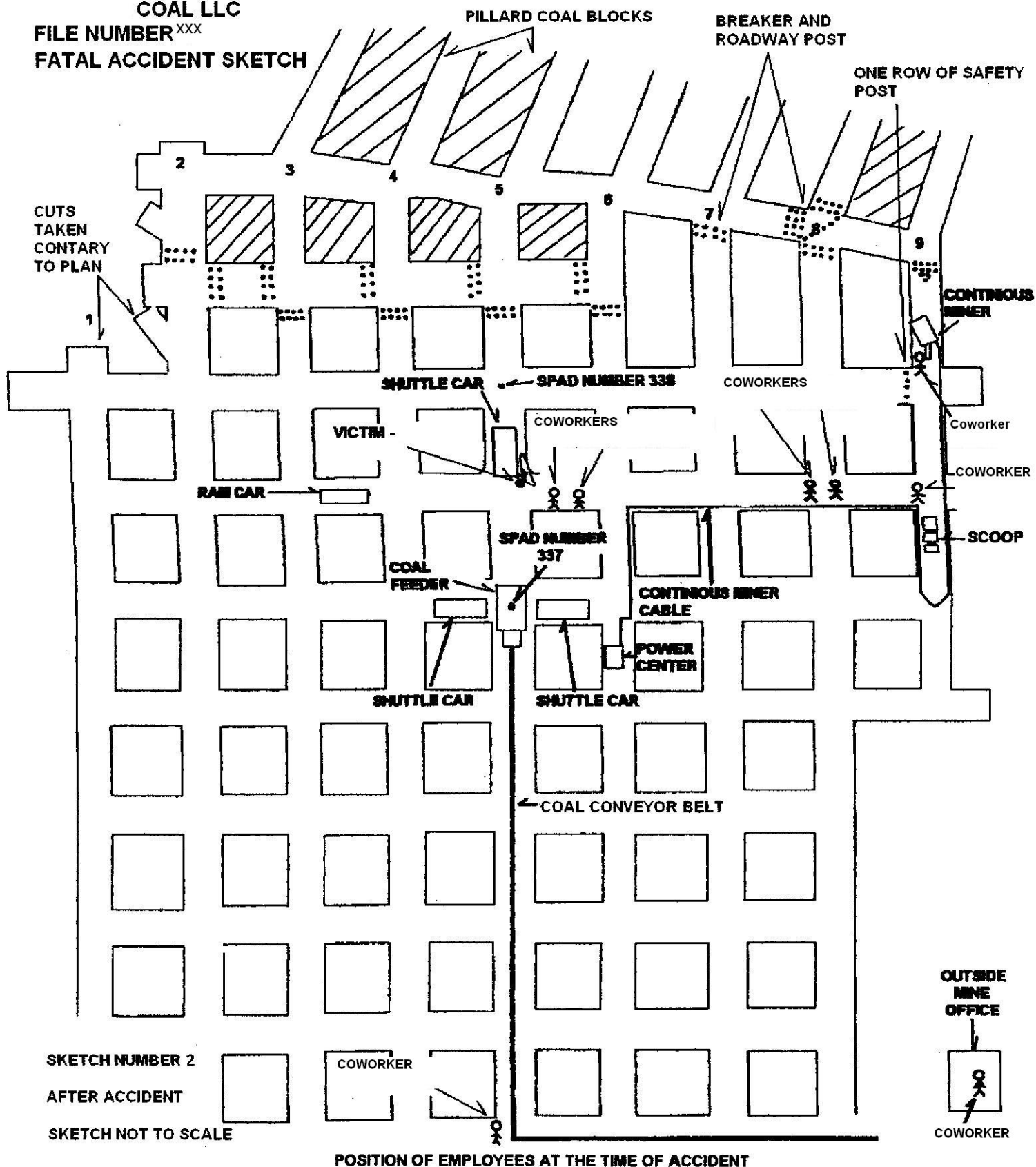
COAL LLC  
FILE NUMBER XXXX  
MINE NUMBER 1  
FATAL ACCIDENT SKETCH



SKETCH NUMBER 1  
BEFORE ACCIDENT  
SKETCH NOT TO SCALE

POSITION OF EMPLOYEES PRIOR TO ACCIDENT

**COAL LLC**  
**FILE NUMBER XXX**  
**FATAL ACCIDENT SKETCH**

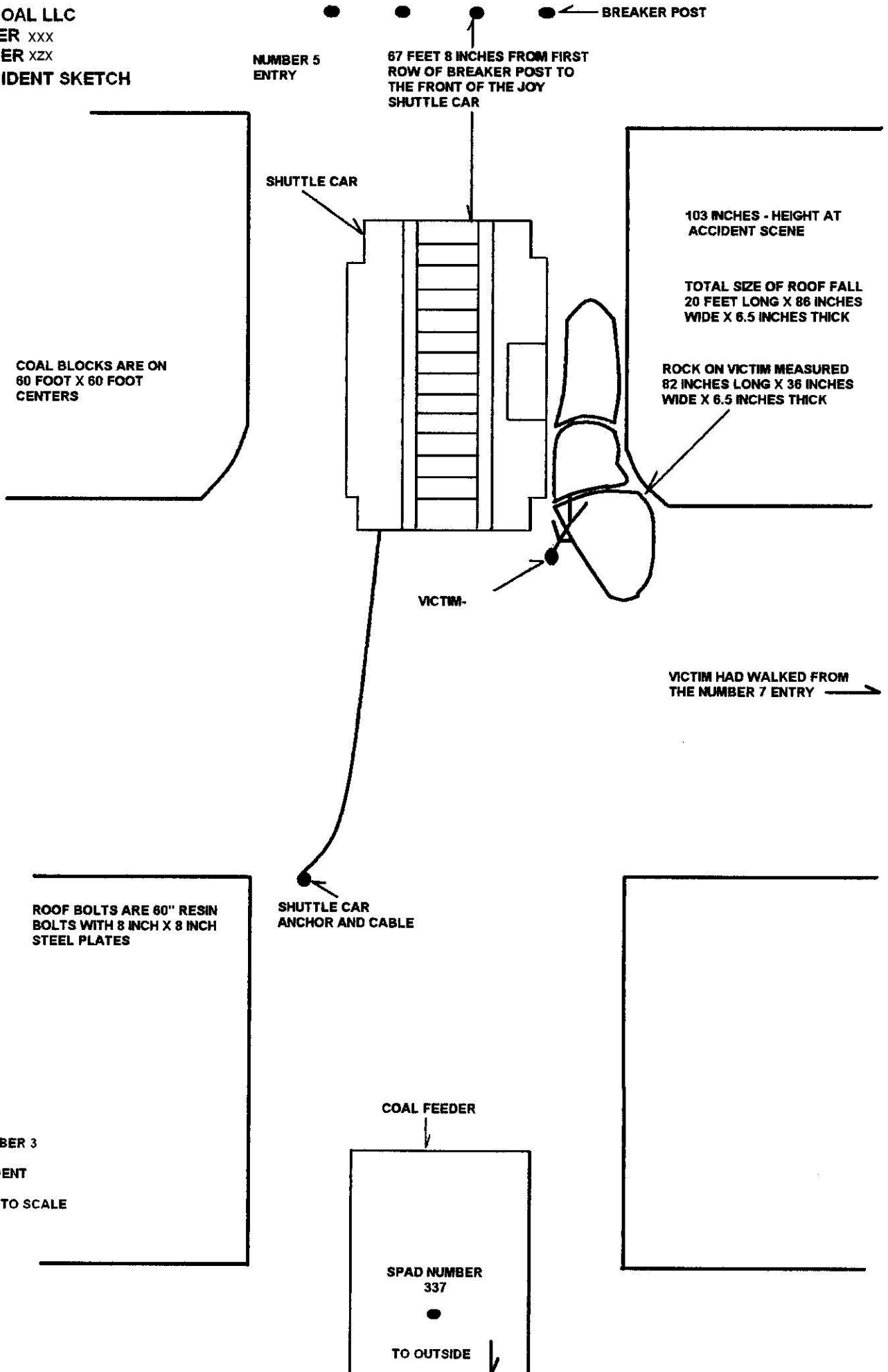


COAL LLC

FILE NUMBER XXX

MINE NUMBER XZX

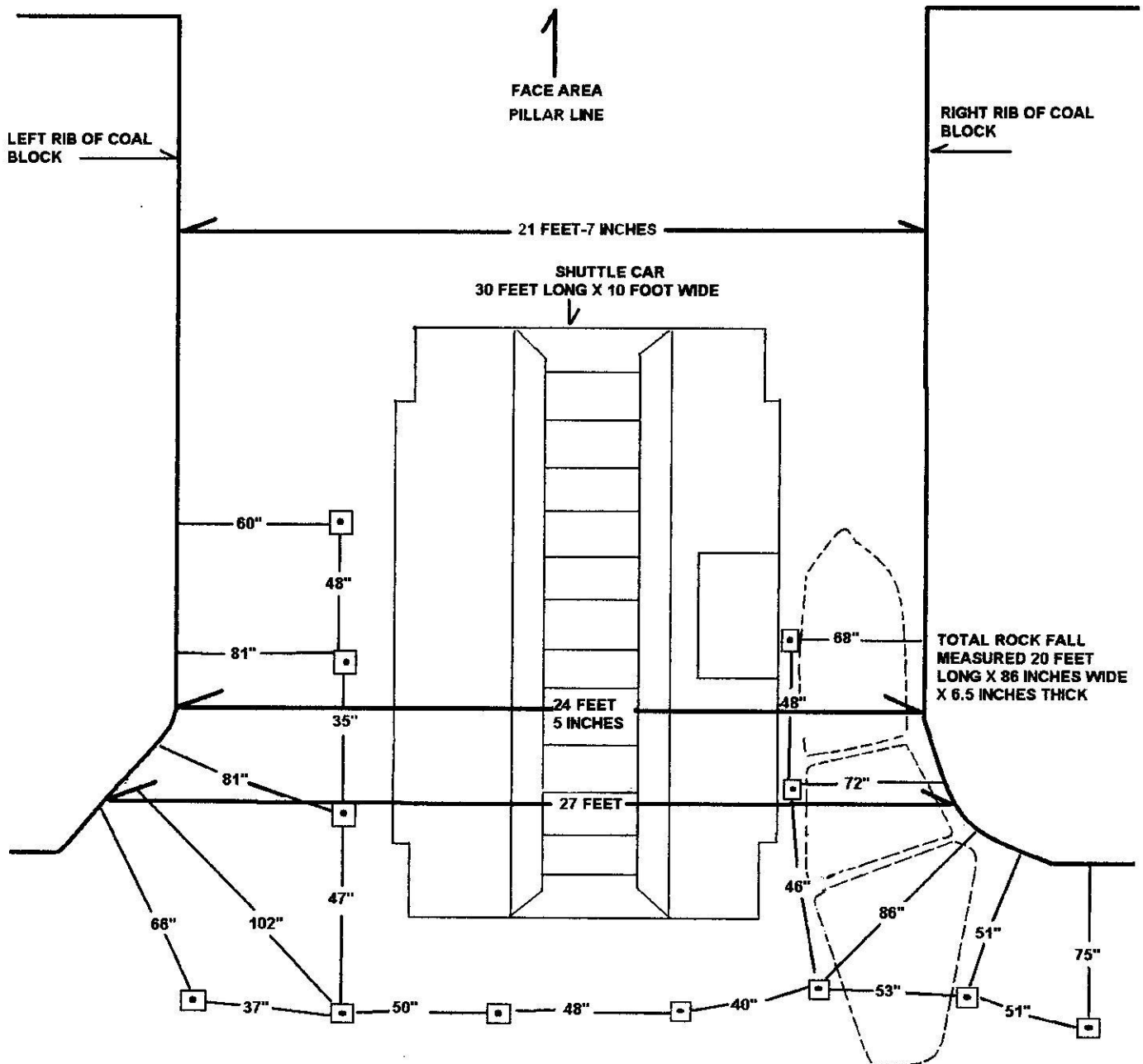
FATAL ACCIDENT SKETCH



COAL LLC  
 FILE NUMBER xxx  
 MINE NUMBER x  
 FATAL ACCIDENT SKETCH

SPAD NUMBER 338

NUMBER 5 ENTRY



SKETCH NUMBER 4

AFTER ACCIDENT

SKETCH NOT TO SCALE

103 INCHES HEIGHT AT ACCIDENT SCENE

— ROOF BOLTS INSTALLED ARE 60 INCH RESIN  
 WITH 8 INCH X 8 INCH STEEL PLATES

SPAD NUMBER 337 LOCATED ONE BREAK OUTBY  
 TO BELT FEEDER AND OUTSIDE

